

1. Cover Letter should be addressed to the chief editor, indicating the subject area of the submitted manuscript, novelty and significance of the study, and proposed reviewers.

Dear Editor in Chief of *Squalen*,
Dr. Tatty Yuniarti, ST, M.Si.
Jakarta Fisheries University, Jakarta, Indonesia

Dear Dr. Yuniarti,

We submit our manuscript entitled "**Proximate composition, saponin and collagen content, and metabolite profile of sandfish (*Holothuria scabra*) dried with different drying techniques**" which we think might be suitable for publication in *Squalen*. The authors are Dian A. Fitri, Nanik Purwanti, Muhammad Nursid, and Gintung Patantis. The research described in the manuscript aimed to investigate the effect of sun drying and oven drying on the bioactive compounds (saponin and collagen) of sandfish. In addition, the study also evaluated the effect of excessive heating in the form of boiling on the stability of the saponin and collagen. The results of this study firmly show that the application of drying, either sun drying or oven drying, is appropriate to preserve sandfish as the source of saponin and collagen. Further, boiling for cleaning the excess of dirt and minerals in the sandfish will not negatively affect the saponin and collagen. We think that those are important findings for further handling of sandfish as one of the raw material to obtain saponin and collagen.

For review process, we would like to propose the following potential reviewers:

1. Dr. R. Haryo Bimo Setiarto, S.Si, M.Si. Research Centre for Applied Microbiology, National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN). Email: rh002@brin.go.id
2. Dr. Ir. Dianika Lestari, S.T., M.T. Biomass and Food Processing Group, Faculty of Industrial Technology, Bandung Institute of Technology. Email: dianika@itb.ac.id
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4. Prof. Yusuf Hendrawan, S.TP., M.App.Life Sc., PhD. Department of Agricultural Engineering, University of Brawijaya. Email: yusuf_h@ub.ac.id.

We look forward to your positive comments on the manuscript.

Kind regards and on the behalf of the co-authors,

Dr. Nanik Purwanti